

We humbly Petition you that you will be pleased to inquire into the govern-  
ces of which we have complained and — And we conceive the welfare of Nati-  
ons depends in the ~~de~~equally distributing of Justice, that you may look  
forward and ~~be~~proceed in judgment with your Predecessors, <sup>the first Congress</sup> that we have  
with other men <sup>have</sup> an Unalienable Right to life Liberty & the pursuit of  
happiness, so that nothing may be wanting on your part to facilitate  
so desirable an object, opening a door for a gradual Emancipation to  
take place, and likewise to look forward preparing a way an Appeal  
for such as may incline <sup>who are free</sup> to resort, similar to the one prepared by  
the British in Trevelthone so that such of us that are favoured with Liberty  
may have it in our power to become more Usefull to the Community at  
Large who are now at a loss for a livelihood for ourselves & families

Undated Petition signed by James Dexter,  
Cox-Parish—Wharton Papers, Collection  
#154

*Transcript of draft petition from about 1791.*

We humbly Petition you that you will be pleased to inquire into the governances of which we have complained and—and we conceive the wellfair of nations depends in the Equally distributing of Justice, that you may look forward and \_\_\_\_\_(Corporate?) in Judgement with your Predecessors the first Congress that we have with other men have an Unalinauble Right to life Liberty & pursuit of happiness, so that nothing may be wanting on your part to facilitate so discernable an object of opening a door for a gradual Emancipation to take place, and likewise look forward preparing a way an asylum for such as may meline who are free, to resort, similar to the one prepared by the British in Serealluone (Sierra Leone?) so that such of us that are favoured with Liberty may have it in our power to become more useful to the Community at Large who are now at a loss for a livelihood for ourselves & famleys.

